

Mr. McKean raised the question as to whether attendance at an annual election was an attendance at a meeting within the meaning of the laws as to qualification for voting at a subsequent annual election.

After discussion by Gen. Wistar, Prof. Houston, Mr. Price and others, the following resolutions were offered by Mr. Price, duly seconded, and unanimously adopted :

*Resolved*, That attendance and voting at any annual election held by the Society shall not be considered as a qualification for voting at the next annual election.

*Resolved*, That the judges of the election be informed by the Secretary of the adoption of the above resolution.

After reading the rough minutes, the Society was adjourned by the President.

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*Stated Meeting, December 20, 1895.*

The President, Mr. FRALEY, in the Chair.

Present, 41 members.

Mr. C. C. Harrison, a newly-elected member, was presented to the Chair, and took his seat.

Minutes of preceding meeting were read and approved.

Correspondence was submitted as follows :

A letter from Rev. E. A. Foggo, D.D., Philadelphia, requesting a certificate of membership, not having received the one sent him.

Letters of acknowledgment were received from the Naturf. Gesellschaft, Dorpat, Russia (143, 146); Société Physico-Mathématique, Kasan, Russia (147); Académie R. de Belgique (143); Société R. Malacologique de Belgique, Bruxelles (142-147); K. K. Universitäts Sternwarte, Prag, Bohemia (147); K. K. Central-Anstalt für Meteorologie und Erdmagnetismus (143, 147); K. K. Naturhistorische Hofmuseum, Vienna, Austria (147); Redaction der *Naturwissenschaftlichen Wochenschrift*, Berlin, Prussia (147); Verein

für Geschichte und Alterthumskunde, Erfurt, Prussia (142-147); Naturwissenschaftlicher Verein des Reg.-Bez. Frankfurt a. O., Prussia (143, 146, 147); K. Leop. Carol. Akademie, Halle a. S., Prussia (147); Verein für Erdkunde, Metz, Germany (147); Naturwissenschaftliche Verein, Regensburg, Bavaria (147); Zoologische Institut, Strassburg, Germany (147); Verein für Vaterländische Naturkunde in Württemberg, Stuttgart (147); Schweiz. Naturforsch. Gesellschaft, Bern, Switzerland (147); R. Accademia dei Lincie, Rome, Italy (147); Dr. Edward Pepper, Paris, France (147); Col. William Ludlow, London, Eng. (147); Historical and Library Association, Yonkers, N. Y. (25 pamphlets).

Accessions to the Library were reported from the Government Geologist, Adelaide, Australia; Société R. Malacologique de Belgique, Académie R. de Belgique, Bruxelles, Belgique; K. B. Akademie der Wissenschaften, Munich, Bavaria; Naturwissenschaftliche Verein, Osnabrück, Prussia; R. Istituto Lombardo, Milan, Italy; Prof. Gabriel de Mortillet, St. Germain en Laye, France; Mr. Henry C. Mercer, Doylestown, Pa.; Prof. Edmund J. James, Philadelphia; Department of Labor, Washington, D. C.

The Committee appointed by the American Philosophical Society for the purpose of investigating the methods in use for the study of documents presented the following report:

Organization was effected by the election of Dr. Frazer Chairman.

It was resolved that the future necessary business of the Committee should be transacted by correspondence, and that the votes on all important matters should be taken in this way, where personal meetings were difficult.

It was resolved at the outset of our work that the portion of it which related to handwriting concerned itself with the characteristics thereof peculiar to the writer and their differences from the characteristics of other writers, but we specifically disclaim any connection between this study based on pure inductive methods and the so-called science of Graphology which attempts to read in written characters the moral peculiarities of the writer.

It was informally agreed that provisionally the Committee adopt the classification of the whole subject into "Bibliotics" or that which pertains to the study of records of any kind transmitting ideas from man to

man, or the materials with which they have been made; "Grammapheny," or the study of written characters, and "Plassopheny," or the method for detecting fraud or falsification.

The stated business of the meeting being the report of the Finance Committee of the Society, the report was read and approved, and the appropriations for the ensuing year recommended therein were granted.

The election of new members being in order, the Chair appointed the following Tellers: Mr. Price, Dr. Morris, Dr. Frazer, and a recess was taken to allow the casting of ballots.

A paper by Dr. S. P. Sharples was read by Dr. Frazer, entitled "Notes on Photographic Testing of Inks," followed by remarks by himself on the "Evidences of the Action of two hands in joint signature marks" (*vide ante* pp. 471-473).

Dr. Morris called attention to the photographs made of the Codex Poinsett for its reproduction in *fac simile* under the direction of Dr. Brinton, Mr. Phillips and himself.

The original was written with three inks—one of them probably of animal, the second of vegetable, and the third of mineral basis. The latter, an iron ink, was so successfully photographed that many words almost illegible in the original are quite easily made out in the photographs.

Remarks on these communications were made by Messrs. Edmunds, Brinton, Mitchell and others.

Pending nominations 1332 and 1333 were read.

On motion, the letter of the Rev. Mr. Foggo was referred to the Secretaries, with directions to issue him a second diploma marked "duplicate."

Letters from Secretary Burpee, of Ottawa, and Superintendent Thomas, of Chicago, were referred to the Secretaries with power to act.

Treasurer Price offered the following, which was unanimously adopted:

*Resolved,* That the Treasurer and Librarian be directed to prepare two days before the election, to be held on the third day of January, 1896, an alphabetical check list of all the members who shall appear to be entitled

to vote at said election, and keep the same written up in accordance with the laws of the Society for the convenience of the judges of the election, which list shall be at all times open to the inspection of any member.

Dr. Dolley moved that the courtesies of the Society be extended to the various scientific societies about to assemble for their annual meetings in Philadelphia, and that the Secretaries address them to that effect. Carried.

The report of the Tellers of the election was called for, and they reported the following election :

Mr. H. A. Pilsbry, of Philadelphia.

The rough minutes having been read, the Society was adjourned by the President.